BENGALURU, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2025 www.Bangaloremirror.com 12 Pages PRICE ₹3

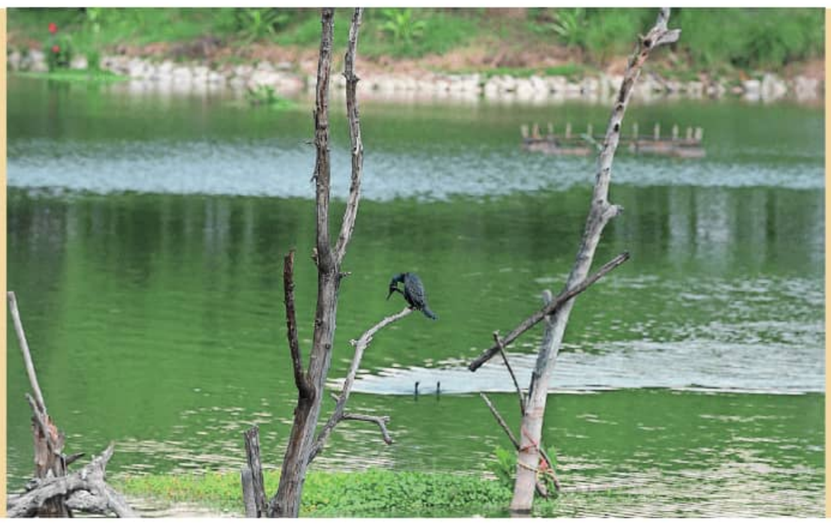
Bangalore Mirror

TEMP Max 25 | Min 21 | Humidity 71% Heavy Thunderstorm Sensex 81,926 | Nifty 25,108 | Gold 1,21,169 | Silver 1,46,766 | Dollar 88.72 | Euro 103.56 | GBP 119.29

NAIL BITING

Motorists raise concerns over nails being deliberately scattered across busy flyovers and roads

PAGE 5



NEW LIFE

Cleaning, desilting, and creative implementation of water management strategies have given this lake a complete makeover

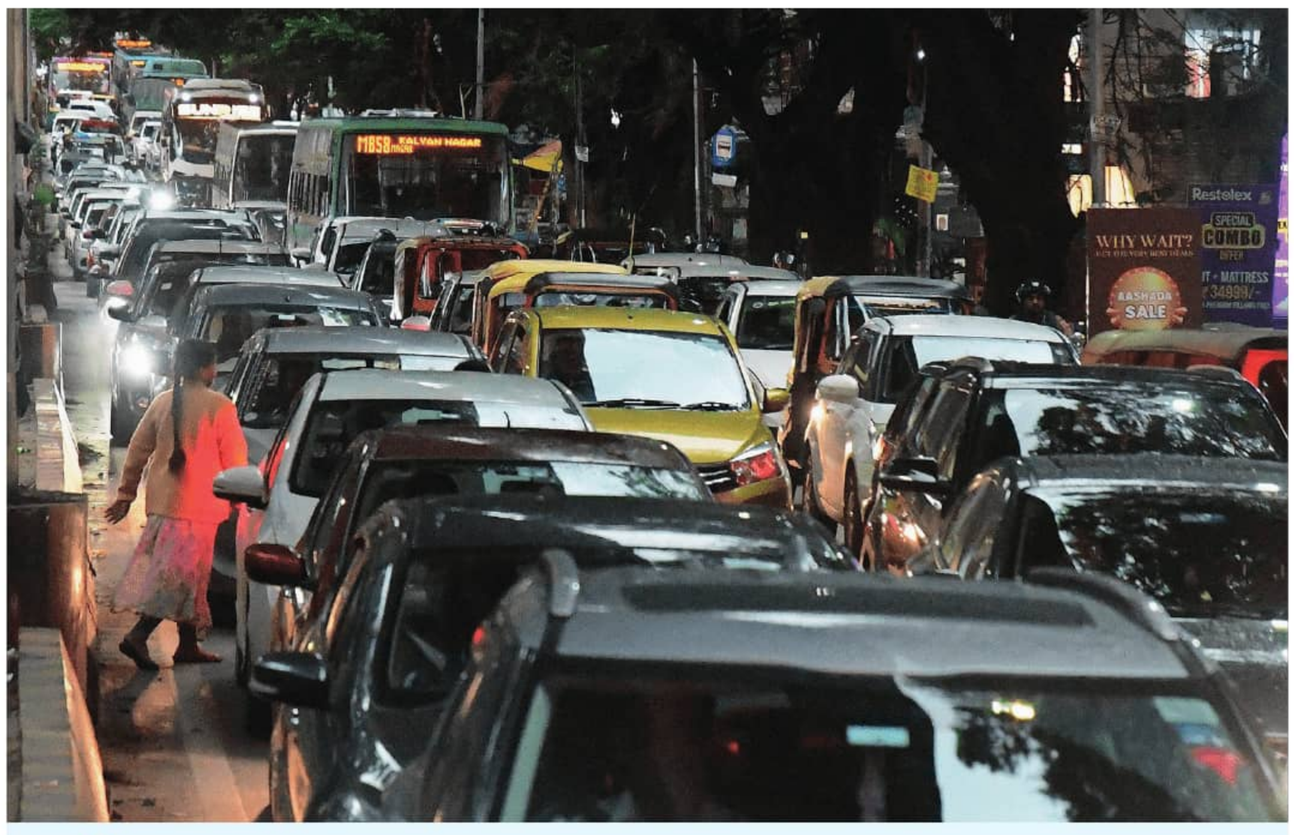
PAGE 6

Not in a hurry to get HSRP done? 75% of K'taka's vehicles still without advanced number plates after several deadlines and discussions pass us by and we don't know if it is even mandatory or not

PLATE EXPECTATIONS

Nearly 350 vehicles are reported missing every month in Bengaluru

Sanjana CS
c-sanjana.s@timesofindia.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR



Despite its potential to curb vehicle theft and number plate tampering, only 25%, that is one in four vehicle owners in Karnataka have registered for HSRP plates. Repeated court delays and unclear deadlines have left the scheme non-compulsory, creating confusion among owners and raising concerns for enforcement and road safety.

Repeated deadline changes and multiple rounds of discussions later, compliance with the High-Security Registration Plate (HSRP) mandate in Karnataka remains sluggish. Out of nearly 2.45 crore vehicles in the state, only 59,47,298 of vehicles have so far been fitted with HSRP plates. "HSRP plates are meant for security because they link all the vehicle details. But with the court hearings being postponed again and again, things keep getting delayed. If it's not made compulsory, people won't bother installing them, and the whole scheme introduced by the government could fail," says Ramalinga Reddy, Transport Minister.

The HSRP project was originally set to finish by April 1, 2019, but the deadline kept getting extended. It was postponed for the seventh time to March 31, 2025, after earlier deadlines of February 17, May 31, September 15, November 30, and December 31, 2024, as well as January 31, 2025. No further extensions have been announced after that. However, the Transport Minister explained, "The case is still in court and hearings keep getting postponed. Once it is cleared, we can make HSRP compulsory. We are following the Central ministry's guidelines, and since this

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 >>

> **"HSRP plates are meant for security because they link all the vehicle details. If it's not made compulsory, people won't bother installing them, and the whole scheme introduced by the government could fail**
>
> — Ramalinga Reddy, Transport Minister

Hackers steal the key

... And force city-based firm to stop work temporarily to clear fraudulent bulk email mess left behind

Atiya Firdos
c-syeda.atiya@timesofindia.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

A chilling case of hackers bringing to halt a city-based company's work has put the focus on misuse of API keys. The digital marketing company lodged a complaint with the Cyber Crime Police Station, East Division, alleging that unidentified hackers gained unauthorised access to its email campaign system and used the firm's identity to send thousands of fraudulent bulk emails, forcing it to suspend regular operations temporarily.

According to the complaint filed by the company's Managing Director, the breach occurred after its digital team attempted to integrate a third-party marketing platform for campaign tracking on July 18, 2025.

When the initial integration through a tag management system failed, the team switched to an API key setup (API keys allow softwares to communicate with each other). The key, once placed on the frontend, made the system vulnerable and accessible to outsiders.

Between July 30 and 31, the exposed key was allegedly exploited by unknown perpetrators who impersonated the firm's official email identity and sent over 6,300 spam messages to various recipients. The fraudulent emails, designed to appear legitimate, were distributed using the offenders' own contact lists.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 >>

THINGS TO DO

01 Multitudes on display

Anek Art Collective is presenting its maiden group exhibition, '8 Artists, 8 Narratives', a celebration of the diverse styles of artworks from its talented artists. The collective, whose name 'Anek' means 'multitude,' reflects a group identity at the intersection of divergent creative perspectives. **Where: Art Houz, Vasanth Nagar; When: October 8 to 12, 10.30 am to 7 pm**

02 Vibe voyage

Windmills is presenting Barmer Boys, the globally renowned torchbearers of Rajasthan's Manganiyar musical tradition. Blending the soulful depth of ancient folk and Sufi sounds with contemporary spirit, Barmer Boys bring India's desert music to life on international stages. **Where: Windmills, Whitefield; When: October 10, 11, 9.30 pm**

03 Stories untold

The Auroville Theatre Group is presenting 'Call me Devika', a play about Devika Rani, who co-founded Bombay Talkies, one of India's earliest film studios, with her husband Himanshu Rai. The play is the first in a longer series exploring the inner lives and legacies of forgotten women who shaped history in invisible ways. **Where: Jagriti Theatre, Whitefield; When: Oct 31, 3.30 pm and 7.30 pm**

04 Lit fest

Embassy Academy is coming up with the second edition of its Diwali Fiesta with a theme of 'Royal Diwali Across India', promising a vibrant day of joy, colour, and festive cheer, to celebrate the Diwali spirit. **Where: Embassy Academy, Devanahalli; When: October 11, 10 am to 3 pm**

05 Get crafty

Karnataka Chitrakala Parishath presents Bengaluru Utsava – a vibrant festive exhibition-cum-sale celebrating Dasara and Navaratri through the artistry of over 50 artisans from across India. The event features over 70 stalls offering handloom, handicrafts, lifestyle products, festive decor, and essentials for Bombe Habba doll displays, and winter wear. **Where: Karnataka Chitrakala Parishath, Kumara Krupa Road; When: September 26 to October 12, 10 am onwards**

Inside the dangerous world of high-altitude filmmaking

As Indian cinema dazzles with special effects, filmmaker from Bengaluru risks life and limb to capture reality at 7,000 metres depending entirely on what nature allows

Sridhar Vivan
sridhar.vivan@timesofindia.com
TWEETS @sridharvMirror

In most action films, mountains are created in studios, snowstorms are simulated by computers, and danger ends when the director yells 'cut'. But in the Himalayas, there is no 'cut'. Cameras freeze, bodies fail, and every breath becomes a struggle. For Kovid Mittal, a 32-year-old filmmaker from Bengaluru, that's where cinema begins. Over the last few years, Mittal and his crew have taken filmmaking to some of the world's most unforgiving terrains — from Uttarakhand's Black Peak (6,387 metres) to Mount Nun (7,000 metres) in Kargil — documenting not just mountaineering, but the real pain, fear, and chaos that come with shooting in such extreme conditions. "It's not adventure tourism; it's survival with a camera," said Mittal. "You can't plan retakes when the oxygen is thin and the wind is howling. You just keep the camera rolling — if it even works," he said.

Inset: Kovid Mittal, 32-year-old filmmaker from Bengaluru

Beyond the green screen

In a film industry dominated by visual effects and elaborate sets, these high-altitude productions are rare. Every shot depends on the weather, and every minute on location tests human endurance. At 6,000 metres, drones fail, batteries die within minutes, and even simple dialogue recording becomes impossible due to wind speed. Crew members film while wearing oxygen masks, balancing between capturing the scene and keeping themselves alive. Mittal noted that sometimes footage is lost because the equipment freezes. "We can't even review shots until we return to base camp. You shoot blind, trusting your instincts," said Mittal.

The weight of loss

The dangers aren't just technical. On an Indo-US film expedition to Mount Nun in September first week, tragedy struck when a fellow climber died of exhaustion and fell into a crevasse. "We had to cover his body with a tent and mark the location for the Army to retrieve later," Mittal recalled. "He literally died in my arms. That moment changes you — as a filmmaker and as a human," said Mittal. Such incidents underline how unpredictable and perilous high-altitude shoots can be. Sudden snowstorms, altitude sickness, and equipment failures are common — but what's often left out of the final film is the toll these experiences take on the crew's physical and mental health.

Filming where humans aren't meant to stay

The challenges begin long before the camera rolls. Teams spend weeks acclimatising to altitude, carrying not just climbing gear but also filming equipment. Even a few extra kilograms can make the difference between safety and collapse. Filming at over 5,000 metres means working in temperatures that drop to –25°C. Hypothermia, frostbite, and altitude sickness are constant threats. Mittal said that during his first film, he suffered from hypothermia. "Your body wants to shut down, but your mind is screaming to finish the shot," he said. There are no generators, no lighting crews, and no backup power. Solar chargers are often the only lifeline for the equipment.

Mirror to mountains — and cinema

Mittal's work is part of a small but growing effort to bring authenticity back to adventure filmmaking. Unlike Hollywood's CGI-driven mountain sequences, these films rely entirely on what nature allows. "The mountain decides your schedule. You can't argue with a storm or demand sunlight. You adapt, or you pack up," said Mittal. As mainstream cinema grows more dependent on technology, filmmakers like him are forcing the industry to confront a simple truth — that some stories can only be told by facing the elements themselves. He said that both the films have won awards at international level for various aspects like direction, background score and the adventure film category.

His next expedition to Mount Everest in 2026 will continue this dangerous tradition. But for Mittal, it isn't about records or recognition. "When you're up there, stripped of everything — no makeup, no effects, no second chances — that's when you find the real story," he said.

Cheaper veggies make home-cooked meals less pricey in Septmber

The The cost of home-cooked vegetarian and non-vegetarian thalis declined 10 per cent and 6 per cent, respectively, during September compared to the same month last year, amid a sharp decline in commodity prices, according to a Crisil report released on Tuesday.

The cost of the vegetarian thali has reduced due to a sharp drop in prices of vegetables and pulses. Potato prices declined 31 per cent, owing to dumping of stocks by cold storage units, while tomato prices fell 8 per cent year-on-year on the back of higher supplies, the report stated.

Onion prices declined 46 per cent year-on-year because of higher rabi supplies entering the market and the increase in domestic supplies resulting from the bearish import momentum from Bangladesh, which accounts for 40 per cent in India's onion export basket, it pointed out.

Prices of pulses declined 16 per cent because of downward pressure from an increase in the imports of Bengal gram, yellow pea and black gram, which are allowed until March 2026 to bring down prices for consumers, the report observed.

However, vegetable oil prices rose 21 per cent year-on-year owing to higher demand at the start of the festive season and a 6 per cent year-on-year increase in prices of liquefied petroleum gas cylinders came in the way of a sharper decline in the overall cost of thalis. **— BMB**

Icon Utsav hosts third Durga Puja in Bengaluru

The Icon Utsav Association, founded in 2023, recently held its third Durga Puja at Lodha Icon in Bengaluru. The event was inaugurated by Revenue Minister Krishna Byre Gowda and brought together people from across India.

The week-long programme included Agomoni Dance, Ananda Mela, Lalita Sahasranama, Shandhi Puja, Dhunuchi Naach, Sindoor Khela, Ravan Dahan, and Dandiya Night. Cultural performances included shows by Alive India, Guru Kripa Dance Academy, an Icon Fashion Show, quizzes, and a musical evening by Iconix. Actress Nirusha Gowda participated in the Dhunuchi Naach.

Swati Venkat, a founding member, noted that the Puja's unique appeal lies in its blend of homely warmth and glamorous flair. "It truly feels like Puja back home," she said. Her husband Venkat, a Tamilian from Kolkata, never misses the Bengaluru celebration, choosing it over the festivities in Kolkata. Smita Mammen, the Association's Cultural Secretary and a Keralite with deep Kolkata ties, added, "For us, Durga Puja here isn't just about rituals—it's about experiencing Bengal's cultural heritage with inclusivity and warmth."

The event is organised by founding members Uttama, Nandini, Nilanjana, Chandrani, and Sreyoshi, who work to involve the community. With devotion, inclusivity and cultural pride at its core, the Icon Utsav Association continues to carry Bengal's legacy forward, making the iconic Durga Puja a true celebration of unity in diversity. **— BMB**

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Frazer Town roads turn hazardous after white-topping work delays

Residents warn deep gaps, loose debris on Mosque and MM Roads have created accident-prone stretches despite ongoing temporary safety measures

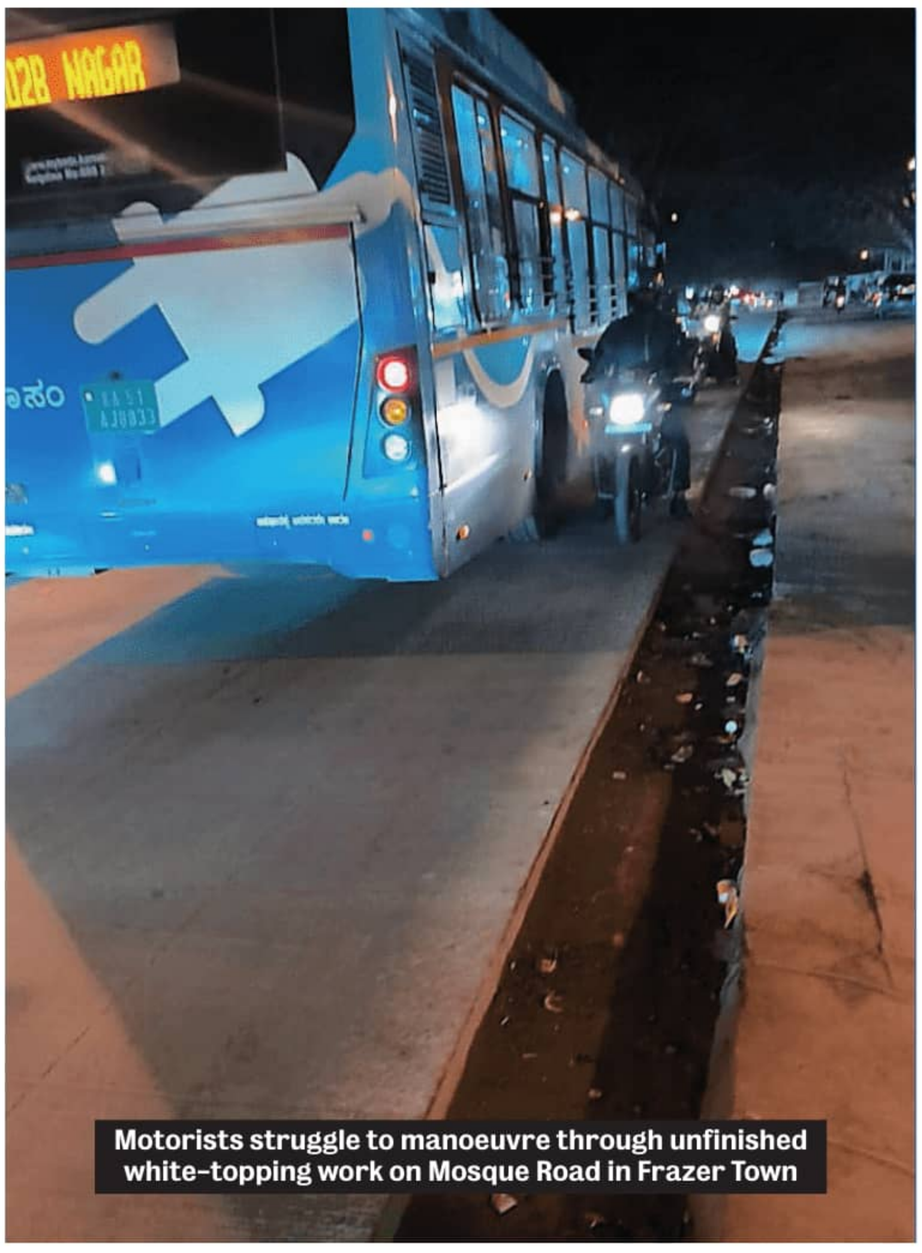
Iffath Fathima
iffath.fathima@timesofindia.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Residents and commuters along Mosque Road and MM Road are raising the alarm over the dangerous condition of the stretch following recent white-topping works. Large gaps and uneven surfaces left in the middle of the road have already led to multiple accidents, they alleged, particularly involving two-wheeler riders.

Abbas Yacoob Sait, Joint Secretary of the Frazer Town Residents' Welfare Association (FTRWA), said, "The newly white-topped section, instead of providing smoother and safer movement, has exposed road users to fresh hazards. A deep, unmarked, trench-like gap runs along the road. At night, with poor visibility, it becomes especially treacherous for bikers and pedestrians. Two-wheelers are facing problems every day navigating this stretch. We are witnessing accidents daily."

Residents pointed out that two-wheelers have to navigate dangerously close to the gap. In another section, loose construction material and unlevelled stretches remain unattended. Locals say this poor execution has turned the busy stretch into an accident-prone zone.

Commuters have echoed these concerns, stating that despite repeated complaints, the problem remains unresolved. Given that Mosque Road and MM Road are key connectors in the neighbourhood, the poor condition is affecting hundreds of daily road users.



Motorists struggle to manoeuvre through unfinished white-topping work on Mosque Road in Frazer Town

Yasir Mohammed, a social activist who has been following up closely with the Frazer Town works, said, "These gaps are intended for the median, and streetlights will be installed. The road is still under construction at MM Road and, although we have put up barricades, people are using it even though it increases the risk of accidents and tripping. On Mosque Road, the gaps are filled with silt temporarily, which is not dangerous so far. All the work needs to be completed before the median and lighting are installed."

Residents allege poor finishing and ignored complaints after recent white-topping works. Civic officials attribute delays to administrative issues but promise swift repairs

"As people's movement and traffic density are high in these areas, the risk of serious injuries or even fatalities cannot be ruled out unless swift repairs are carried out," said another resident, Nazir.

Speaking to BM, AC Srinivasa, MLA of Pulakeshinagar Constituency, said, "Work in Frazer Town has slowed down due to a change in engineers. Since there were changes from BBMP to GBA, it has caused some delays. Next week, I will be calling a meeting with the officials to ensure the work resumes and is completed at the earliest. We have been closely following up on the matter."

Many residents also pointed out that the stretch has become extremely polluted, with dust creating safety hazards.

Bigg Boss Kannada studio shut over pollution violations

Regional officer's recommendation leads to shutdown after amusement park fails to adhere to environmental norms

Bigg Boss Kannada Faces Real-World Drama: Set Sealed, Contestants Relocated as Environmental Violations Emerge Bigg Boss is renowned for its high-voltage drama inside the house — but on Tuesday, the real action unfolded outside. The Bigg Boss Kannada set in Bidadi, Bengaluru South, was sealed by authorities, forcing the producers to relocate contestants to a resort, leaving the show's future uncertain.

Earlier in the day, the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB) issued an immediate closure order for the Bigg Boss Kannada studio — operated by Vels Studios and Entertainment Pvt. Ltd. (Jolly Wood Studios & Adventures) — citing multiple breaches of environmental regulations. In a notice dated October 6, KSPCB directed a complete halt of operations at the amusement park and studio, which fall under the "Green" category, until further notice. The Board noted that the amusement park had been constructed and operated without obtaining the necessary prior consent.

Officials found untreated wastewater being discharged, empty sewage treatment units, unsegregated solid waste & unregulated DG sets at the amusement park

During inspections, officials discovered untreated wastewater being discharged beyond the premises, posing a risk of contamination to the surrounding environment. Additionally, the on-site sewage treatment plant (STP), although having a capacity of 250 KLD, showed no signs of sewage inflow. All units were empty and had not been commissioned. The facility also housed diesel generators of 625 KVA and 500 KVA capacity, while solid waste was being dumped openly without segregation.

Despite a prior notice issued in April 2024, a follow-up inspection in June revealed continued non-compliance. Consequently, the regional officer recommended a complete shutdown under the Water Act, 1974. The matter was presented to the State Level Enforcement Committee (SLEC), which, after discussions in its September 16, meeting, approved the closure without granting a hearing. With the show's set abruptly closed and contestants temporarily relocated to a resort, the fate of Bigg Boss Kannada now hinges on how quickly the studio can resolve its legal and environmental issues.

— BMB

Ramayana inclusion in schools planned

Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Tuesday said the state government would consider including the Ramayana and its author, Maharshi Valmiki, in the school curriculum. He made the announcement while addressing the Valmiki Jayanti event at Vidhana Soudha's Banquet Hall in Bengaluru. Siddaramaiah assured that former minister VS Ugrappa's demand to incorporate Maharshi Valmiki and the Ramayana would be positively considered. Highlighting the Valmiki community's achievements, he noted that despite being denied formal education, Maharshi Valmiki composed the epic Ramayana, which holds universal significance, and urged the community to prioritise education. He also emphasised that communities must claim rights through organisation and struggle, citing Ambedkar, Buddha, and Basavanna. Earlier, after offering floral tributes at Shri Maharshi Valmiki Tapovan, he described Valmiki as a rare literary genius.

— IANS

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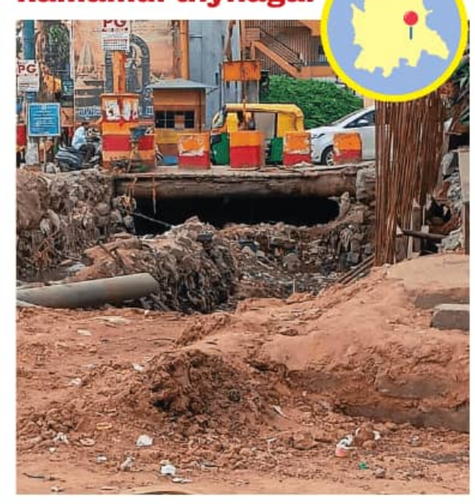
Surface repaired
Venkateshpura

Authorities promptly repaired the road near PNT Colony, Venkateshpura, after the issue was highlighted in these columns.

Drainage woes
Balepet Road

Sewage water has been overflowing on Balepet Road for over a year, leaving residents frustrated and helpless.

Neglected gutter
Ramamurthynagar



The drain next to Holy Family Church, Ramamurthynagar, has not been cleaned for days, raising sanitation concerns.

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Darshan's lawyers file third petition seeking basic facilities inside jail

Lawyers representing actor Darshan, who is currently in custody at Parappana Agrahara Central Prison in connection with the Renuka Swamy murder case, have filed a third petition in the 57th CMM court on Monday, requesting that jail authorities provide him with proper basic facilities. Darshan is being held in a quarantine cell, where officials have allowed him limited walking in shaded areas, which has reportedly improved his health. The petitioners argued that the earlier court orders have not been fully implemented and urged the judge to personally visit the jail to verify the conditions, including whether Darshan is still in the quarantine cell or moved to another barrack. The court has scheduled the matter for further hearing on October 9. —BMB

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Furore over b'day bash inside temple

Y Maheswara Reddy
c-y.reddy@timesofindia.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

A recent incident of temple committee members and a priest celebrating a birthday within temple premises has caused uproar.

According to documents available with Bangalore Mirror, a few administrative executive committee members of Subramanya Temple, Halasuru, made arrangements to celebrate the birthday of a priest at night inside the temple. After devotees lodged complaints with the Muzrai Department, Executive Officer of Subramanya Temple Shashidhar J issued a notice to the priest seeking an explanation. He opined that it was wrong to use the temple premises for birthday celebrations. "The committee members have not availed permission to organise the birthday celebrations. I have issued a notice to Suresh, the priest, seeking an explanation. I gave a warning to him not to repeat such activities on the temple premises," said the executive officer.

Janakirama Reddy, President, Subramanya Temple Administrative Committee, was also allegedly present on the occasion, while a member of Someshwara Temple Committee reportedly made arrangements for the birthday celebration. "I will ensure no repetition of such mistakes. It is wrong to misuse the temple premises for birthday celebrations. A member made arrangements after 8 pm last month. I have also advised the priest not to attend such a function in future. The Executive Officer issued a notice to the priest," he said.

Condemning the misuse of Subramanya Temple premises, BR Chandran, a social activist, demanded the authorities to take severe action against the priest and remove the committee member responsible for making arrangements to celebrate the priest's birthday. "I wrote a letter to the Commissioner of Muzrai Department appealing him to take action against those who misused

Priest's birthday celebrations in temple ignite harsh criticism over administration of temples

Subramanya Temple premises," he said, adding that the priest and committee members are supposed to be a role model for devotees. "It is shocking to know a birthday was celebrated inside the temple," he said.

Naveen R, a resident, expressed that the Muzrai Department should handover the temple to devotees. "If birthdays are celebrated in the temple, what is the use of Muzrai Department? It will be better to handover the temple to devotees for maintenance," he said.

Suresh Dixit, assistant priest of Subramanya Temple, was not available for comment.

'Puncture mafia' strikes? Nails on B'luru roads spark concern

Many citizens take to social media to share experiences of flat tyres caused by nails strewn across road; official urged to take action as concerns rise over increased chances of accidents

Sanjana CS
c-sanjana.s@timesofindia.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Rising incidents of flat tyres caused by nails on road alarms motorists

It appears that the notorious 'puncture mafia' is active once again in the city, as motorists have raised fresh concerns over nails being deliberately scattered across busy flyovers and roads. Several commuters have reported flat tyres, forcing them to push their vehicles to the nearest puncture repair shops. Recent viral videos have also cautioned road users especially cyclists and two-wheeler riders to remain vigilant following multiple incidents of sudden tyre punctures reported from different parts of Bengaluru.

Recently a viral video circulating on social media under the title 'Scam Alert for Bengaluru Citizens' shows nails strewn across a flyover near Mandaragiri Hill, close to the IKEA flyover at Nagasandra. The video, recorded by an individual returning from an outing, documents how one of their tyres was punctured after rolling over a nail embedded in the road. Fortunately, the group had a spare and managed to fix the tyre on the spot.

However, what followed was even more alarming. As they continued their journey, the group noticed multiple stretches of the road covered with nails, prompting them to stop again and record further evidence. "It was clearly intentional," one of them said in the video, pointing out that dozens of nails were concentrated at specific points on the road. The group also encountered another cyclist facing a similar problem in nearly the same location reinforcing suspicions that the nails had been deliberately placed.

The video, which has now garnered over 8,000 views and hundreds of comments, has triggered outrage and concern among commuters. Many believe the act could be linked to a well-known

Recent social media posts warn motorists to remain vigilant following multiple incidents of sudden tyre punctures

scam in which stranded motorists are forced to seek help from roadside puncture repair shops, some of which may be complicit in the racket.

Another video post shared by Karnataka Portfolio, which has gone viral on social media, shows nearly 1.5 kilograms of nails scattered across Nelamangala Road, allegedly by the 'puncture mafia'. The post cautioned motorists using the stretch to remain alert and drive carefully.

The incidents are concerning as the tactic not only exploits unsuspecting motorists but also poses a serious safety hazard, as sudden punctures can lead to accidents and endanger the lives of commuters.

Several others shared similar experiences, claiming that they too had noticed sharp metal objects intentionally placed on flyovers and underpasses in various parts of the city. "Same on Sarjapur road. If there are more puncture shops on the street, more nails on the road," a user commented.

This is not the first time such incidents have come to light. Around 14 weeks ago, another commuter had shared a video of a similar discovery near the BEL Circle underpass. The man, who stopped to clear the road, was seen holding nearly ten nails he had picked up from the same stretch. His post too, had gone viral at the time, prompting warnings from fellow drivers.

"My new car tyre inner wall was damaged near Nelamangala at midnight with my family. I suffered a lot, I observed many bolts and nuts on the road," another citizen shared online.

With the latest video reigniting fears, citizens are urging police officials to take action.

From pollution to pride: lake restoration success

One-year restoration project transforms polluted, neglected lake into thriving habitat for birds, fish, and insects while improving local groundwater and public spaces

Iffath Fathima
iffath.fathima@timesofindia.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Lake edges strengthened, green buffer zone developed, and illegal dumping prevented

Once a polluted and neglected water body, Chikkanayakanahalli Lake in Sarjapur has been given a new lease of life after a restoration project. Spread across four acres, the lake had long suffered due to urbanisation, untreated sewage, garbage dumping, and construction debris, resulting in a complete loss of ecological balance. With a one-year revival project, the lake has now been restored.

The water had turned severely polluted, with the lakebed overrun by invasive weeds, while surrounding areas lay dry and neglected. A foul smell of stagnation lingered, and residents faced worsening water scarcity as groundwater levels declined. Amid Bengaluru's rapid urban growth, the lake's deterioration was more than an environmental issue — it had become a pressing social and civic concern, depriving the community of a natural resource that once supported livelihoods, recreation, and ecological balance. Recognising the urgent need for action, restoration efforts were launched.

Aahwahan Foundation, a nonprofit organisation, in collaboration with the Panchayat Development Authority and community members, initiated a comprehensive revival project from October 2024 to September 2025. "We wanted to bring back life to the lake, not just clean it superficially. The idea was to restore it in a way that benefits both nature and people," said Braja Kishore Pradhan, CEO and Founder of Aahwahan Foundation.

The work began with large-scale cleaning and desilting. Decades of waste, weeds, and silt were removed to increase the lake's water-holding capacity. Bunds were levelled and strengthened to prevent soil erosion, while proper inlet and outlet channels were created to regulate water flow and minimise contamination.

"To promote biodiversity, a central island was created inside the lake to provide a safe space for birds and aquatic life. The lake's edges were lined with stone pitching for stability, while a green buffer zone was developed through tree plantation and landscaping. Fencing was also added to prevent encroachments and illegal dumping. Careful water management strategies ensured monsoon runoff could be captured efficiently, making the lake a vital groundwater recharge zone," Pradhan added.

> **"The revival of Chikkanayakanahalli Lake is a shining example of how urban water bodies, once neglected, can be restored to provide ecological balance, social well-being, and a sustainable future**
>
> – Braja Kishore Pradhan CEO and Founder, Aahwahan Foundation

Community involvement was central to the project. A team was set up before restoration began, bringing together Panchayat officials, foundation members, and local residents. Suggestions and feedback were incorporated at every step to ensure transparency and shared responsibility. Permissions and approvals were secured with active support from authorities and the community.

Today, the lake holds cleaner water and supports fish, insects, and other aquatic life. Migratory and native birds have returned to the central island. Surrounding greenery has improved air quality and created a peaceful public space. Groundwater levels in the neighbourhood have risen, easing water shortages.

Pradhan expressed his satisfaction over the transformation. "Beyond environmental benefits, the lake has become a symbol of civic pride, showing how careful planning, ecological restoration, and community engagement can reclaim nature within the city's fast-growing sprawl. Chikkanayakanahalli Lake demonstrates how urban water bodies, once neglected, can be restored to provide ecological balance, social well-being, and a sustainable future."

Liquor sales drop, Karnataka's revenue keeps rising

Karnataka's liquor industry is witnessing a paradox — falling sales but rising revenues. According to the Excise Department's half-yearly report (April–September 2025), Indian Made Liquor (IML) sales fell by 2.8%, while beer sales plunged by nearly 20% compared to the same period last year. Despite this slump, the government's excise collections have surged, climbing from ₹17,702 crore in 2024 to ₹19,571 crore this year — a 10.5% jump.

Beer takes hit

Beer consumption in Karnataka suffered the sharpest blow, with sales falling by almost one-fifth in just six months. Between April and September 2025, the state sold 195.27 lakh boxes of beer (each containing 7.8 litres), down from 242.73 lakh boxes during the same period last year — a fall of 47.46 lakh boxes or about 19.5%. Month-wise data shows a consistent slump. In April, sales dropped to 41.6 lakh boxes — 8.12 lakh fewer than the previous year. May recorded 37.1 lakh boxes, down by 5.12 lakh. The decline deepened in June and July, with both months showing drops of over 8 lakh boxes each. August slipped further to 26.2 lakh boxes, 4.35 lakh lower, while September registered a marginal rebound to 30.4 lakh boxes.

Retailers blame the steep fall on higher excise duties, which pushed up retail prices and drove away casual drinkers. "People are choosing cheaper alternatives or skipping beer

altogether," said a Bengaluru retailer. "A bottle that once cost ₹130 now costs ₹160 or more — enough to turn off a regular buyer."

IML sales dip

Indian Made Liquor, which accounts for the bulk of Karnataka's alcohol market, has also recorded a gradual decline. Industry insiders say the decline reflects "consumer fatigue" from constant price hikes and changing drinking habits, with many urban consumers drinking less frequently or shifting toward craft and low-alcohol options.

Tax boosts revenue

The divergence between falling sales and rising revenue is largely due to taxation. Excise collections grew from ₹17,702 crore in April–September 2024 to ₹19,571 crore this year — a rise of ₹1,869 crore, or 10.5%. Officials hailed this as proof of a successful tax strategy, while distributors caution that sustained price pressure could hurt long-term consumption. Liquor remains one of Karnataka's top five revenue sources, though festive demand will determine if numbers recover by year-end. — BMB

Cough syrups banned for young children

The Health and Family Welfare Department has issued strict guidelines prohibiting doctors from prescribing cough syrup to children under two years. This follows reports of 14 child deaths in Madhya Pradesh linked to cough syrup, prompting the Union Ministry of Health to advise states on safer practices. For children aged 2 to 5 years, cough syrup should be given only after medical examination and on a specialist's advice. Children above five may be administered syrup in minimal doses for a short duration. Medical practitioners, caregivers, and pediatric staff must follow comprehensive child healthcare guidelines, including using inhalers for bronchodilators instead of oral or liquid formulations. District and taluk health officers must inform doctors and staff about these rules, ensure compliance, and conduct inspections. Any adverse events related to cough syrup must be reported through the Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme (IDSP) portal. — BMB

KSPCB provides electric vehicle to CM

The Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB) will provide an electric vehicle (EV) to Chief Minister Siddaramaiah for official use in Bengaluru, announced Board Chairman and MLA PM Narendra Swamy. Highlighting the city's rising air pollution, he said the initiative aims to encourage citizens to adopt eco-friendly electric vehicles over conventional ones. The same EV model will be allocated to the concerned department minister. Additionally, the government will be urged to procure only electric cars for ministers and senior officials in the future. — BMB

Nutrition program faces funding shortfall crisis

The State government's Matrupoorna Scheme, launched in 2017 to combat malnutrition among pregnant women, lactating mothers, and children, is facing serious challenges due to outdated food rates and rising costs. Initially, nutritious meals were served at Anganwadi centers but shifted to home deliveries during COVID-19. Daily rates fixed eight years ago — ₹21 for pregnant and lactating women, ₹8 for children under three, and ₹12 for children aged three to six — remain unchanged. Anganwadi workers now struggle to offer adequate portions of rice, millets, lentils, vegetables, and eggs. Beneficiaries often receive less than intended, and packaging within this budget is difficult. Officials and representatives urge raising the allowance to at least ₹50 per beneficiary to ensure proper nutrition. Currently, essentials like pulses and grains are limited to 100–150 grams monthly, with some items even less, hampering the scheme's goal of improving maternal and child health outcomes. — BMB

Govt urged to frame plot guidelines

The Karnataka High Court has urged the State Government to formulate a comprehensive scheme to regulate land and site transactions involving converted lands that fall outside sanctioned layouts.

Justice Sachin Shankar Magadum, while hearing a writ petition, observed that the rising number of such transactions makes a clear regulatory framework imperative. "With increasing instances of purchasers acquiring sites in converted lands which are not part of sanctioned layouts, there is a pressing necessity for the State to devise a comprehensive scheme to regulate such transactions," the court said.

The judge emphasised that, unless the government frames appropriate guidelines or a regularisation mechanism under Section 17(2B) of the Karnataka Town and Country Planning Act, 1961, courts cannot issue directions that contravene statutory mandates. The legislative intent behind the provision, the court noted, is to balance the rights of genuine buyers with the broader objective of planned urban development.

"The intent behind insertion of Section 17(2B) is to ensure that civic infrastructure and planned growth of towns are not compromised while also protecting the interests of innocent buyers," the order stated.

The observations came during the dismissal of a petition filed by U Mamatha, who had sought a direction to the Holalkere Town Municipality to issue an e-khata for her property. Mamatha had submitted her title deed, conversion order, and tax receipts, asserting that a manual khata was issued in 2015 and that she had been paying property tax regularly.

However, the municipality cited government circulars prohibiting the issuance of e-khatas for plots lacking layout plan approval from competent authorities. The court concurred, noting that although the petitioner's property was on converted land, it was not part of an approved layout.

Referring again to Section 17(2B), the bench highlighted that the provision seeks to ensure orderly urban development, adequate civic amenities, and prevent unregulated layouts that strain public infrastructure. The court also observed that local authorities had earlier sought government permission to collect betterment charges as a step toward regularising such sites, but the proposal had been rejected.

Justice Magadum concluded that the municipality was under no legal duty to issue an e-khata for the petitioner's site. "A writ of mandamus lies only where there exists a corresponding duty cast on the authority and a legal right vested in the petitioner. In the absence of both, no such writ can be issued," he said. —BMB

Compensation raised for amputee vegetable seller

The High Court has nearly doubled the compensation awarded to a vegetable vendor who lost his leg in a road accident, noting that his occupation made it extremely difficult for him to continue earning a livelihood after the injury.

Justice Dr Chillakur Sumalatha increased the compensation granted by the Motor Accidents Claims Tribunal (MACT) from ₹5.98 lakh to ₹11.40 lakh. "For a vegetable vendor, it will be highly difficult to continue his occupation and earn in light of the loss of one lower limb. The claimant, who had suffered a below-knee amputation of his left leg, had initially sought ₹50 lakh in compensation. The tribunal, however, awarded only ₹5.98 lakh, assessing his notional income at ₹15,000 per month and his whole-body disability at 25%. Arguing that both figures were underestimated, the claimant stated that he earned around ₹2,000 per day before the accident and was now permanently disabled.

The Justice also observed that the claimant would have required at least eight months for recovery and rehabilitation, during which he could not resume work. The HC enhanced the compensation to ₹11.40 lakh and directed the insurance company to deposit the amount within eight weeks. —BMB

Gold is glittering...

₹9,700 per 10 grams in a single day: Gold price spike

24-carat pure gold jumped from **₹1,47,700** to **₹1,57,400** per 10 grams, according to All India Saraf Association

22-carat jewellery gold surged by **₹2,700,** reaching **₹1,22,700** compared to **₹1,20,000** in the previous trading session

1% rise in silver price, climbing to **$48.75** per ounce in the international market,

$3,949.58 per ounce is gold price in international market, up by about **2%.**

Experts attribute the rally to the depreciation of the rupee against the dollar, increased investor preference for gold despite higher prices, and global trade uncertainties, which have strengthened gold's appeal as a safe-haven asset.

Rise & rise

Gold prices rose from **₹78,950** to **₹1,57,400** per **10** grams, marking an overall increase of **₹78,450.**

In Bengaluru, **24-**carat gold is priced at **₹1,20,770** per 10 grams, while **22**-carat gold stands at **₹1,10,700.**

Silver prices in the city climbed by **₹1,000,** reaching **₹1,56,000** per kilogram. —BMB

INBRIEF

Student struck by train, dies

A college student lost his life after being struck by a passenger train while allegedly crossing railway tracks with headphones on near Nagenahalli early Tuesday morning.

The deceased was identified as Shashi Kumar G (20), a student of a private college in Yelahanka and a native of Chittoor, Andhra Pradesh, residing with his uncle.

The incident occurred between 7 am and 8.30 am when he was walking from Nagenahalli towards the Veerannapalya bus stand. Police said he was crossing the tracks when a goods train approaching from behind struck him, causing instant death.

Baiyappanahalli Railway Police arrived soon after, inspected the scene, and sent the body for postmortem. Only an earphone pouch was found, and police suspect the earbuds were flung away on impact. BMB

Film producer held for misconduct

A television actress has lodged a complaint at Rajajinagar Police Station accusing producer and co-director BI Hemanth Kumar of harassment, blackmail, and threats. Police arrested him on October 5 and remanded him in judicial custody.

According to her complaint filed on October 4, 2025, Hemanth Kumar cast her as the lead in his 2022 film Ricchi, paying ₹60,000 of a promised ₹2 lakh. She alleged repeated delays, inappropriate touching, and that he spiked her drink during a Mumbai press meet in August 2023. The actress also accused him of misusing her images and uploading uncensored scenes online. Fearing for safety, she sought court protection. Police confirmed the investigation is ongoing. BMB

Drunken quarrel turns deadly at site

A drunken brawl between two construction workers in Veerannapalya near Amruthahalli on Monday night turned fatal after one of them slit the other's throat.

Police arrested the accused, Raghu, for murdering Raju (37). Both men, natives of Jharkhand, worked as granite pavers and lived in a makeshift shed near the site. The fight broke out after Raju confronted Raghu for frequently calling his wife. Raghu attacked him with a knife and tried to flee but was caught by police using GPS tracking. BMB

Birthday party in jail: NCR registered

The Parappana Agrahara police have registered a non-cognisable report (NCR) after videos of a rowdy-sheeter celebrating his birthday inside the Central Prison went viral on social media.

Commissioner of Police Seemant Kumar Singh said a non-cognisable case has been filed, and police are awaiting an inquiry report from the prison department before taking further action. The incident surfaced after videos showed Srinivasa, alias Gubbachhi Seena, a notorious rowdy-sheeter lodged on murder charges, wearing an apple garland and cutting a cake inside his cell. BMB

SOCIALTATTLE

What's tweeting?

Srinivasa S
@photomithra
Kudos @airtelindia - laying cable in our street and the heavy drilling vehicle has broken down. Parked right in front on someone's house. How are they to take their vehicles out when needed? @BbmpchdTeam - while building a house, we know the ordeals and kickbacks you put us through when we have to road-cut. Are you holding Airtel accountable for this mess?

@photomithra has a valid query: Kudos @airtelindia – laying cable in our street and the heavy drilling vehicle has broken down. Parked right in front on someone's house. How are they to take their vehicles out when needed? @BbmpchdTeam – while building a house, we know the ordeals and kickbacks you put us through when we have to road-cut. Are you holding Airtel accountable for this mess? https://x.com/photomithra/status/1975210356286148636?t=RnZr1jaX5R-Mw38xjDYF-w&s=08

Gautham Machaiah
@GauthamMachaiah
Behind Bengaluru's tech glitter lies a grim truth — its elderly are being failed by a broken public health system. A survey shows seniors struggling for basic care, medicines and dignity. A city's progress means nothing if it forgets its elders who built it.
@CMofKarnataka
10:56 AM · Oct 6, 2025 · 659 Views

@gautammachaiah exposes an important ugly truth that we cannot afford to forget, writing: Behind Bengaluru's tech glitter lies a grim truth — its elderly are being failed by a broken public health system. A survey shows seniors struggling for basic care, medicines and dignity. A city's progress means nothing if it forgets its elders who built it. https://x.com/GauthamMachaiah/status/1975070236794880153?t=Q6oQsIRVAq_UZd2dvJ-Zdw&s=08

Image of the day

These two images clearly show the difference in air quality in traffic and non-traffic hours in the city:

Shivramt150
@shivramt150
Left : Pic taken during Dusshera at 10 am
Right : Pic taken today at 7 am , yes 7 am which is before peak hours
Bengaluru back to normal
@ChristinMP_ @bengalurupost1 @ORRCA @NammaBengaluroo
@Hennur8lr

Left : Pic taken during Dussehra at 10 am

Right : Pic taken today at 7 am , yes 7 am which is before peak hours

Bengaluru back to normal https://x.com/shivram1150/status/1975018070898016534?t=YZia0N9qMrpWATmYNF8pjg&s=08

Bangalore Mirror tagged

@gopinathkarangu points to the situation of GBA with our story that staff salaries

Gopinath K @gopinathkarangu · 21h
Replying to @gopinathkarangu @NoBakwaasDesi and 5 others
@NoBakwaasDesi Seeking ur explanation? Give ur gyaan why such small drainage worked in hosa road started in Aug, not progressing till oct? Mean while @GBA_office situation?
Bangalore Mirror @BangaloreMirror · Oct 6
GBA staff are yet to receive salaries for month of September; delay in first salary since establishment of civic authority raises concerns as employees eagerly await payments
bangaloremirror.indiatimes.com/bangalore/othe...

were not paid: https://x.com/BangaloreMirror/status/1975185270598504823

API key made company vulnerable to attacks

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Mirza Faizan Assad, a cyber expert, told BM, "This case underscores how threat actors exploit exposed API keys to impersonate legitimate businesses and distribute fraudulent communications on a massive scale."

The incident came to light after the company's email campaign account was blocked on August 7, citing suspicious activity. Following the discovery, the firm deleted the compromised key, reset all passwords, removed unauthorised IP addresses, activated two-factor authentication, and secured its systems to prevent further breaches.

Technical analysis revealed that the unauthorised access originated from multiple foreign IP addresses, while the company's authorised usage range was restricted to its local network. Investigators suspect that the attackers may have used proxy servers to conceal their location.

The complainant stated that the incident caused severe reputational damage and could potentially lead to the blacklisting of the firm's domain and IP address. The company has preserved email logs, headers, and access records for investigation and has urged the Cyber Crime Cell to trace the digital trail of the offenders and take action for impersonation, identity theft, and digital forgery.

Cyber police officials confirmed that a case has been registered under relevant sections of the Information Technology Act and that a probe is underway to identify the perpetrators and their digital footprints.

"Such actions constitute identity theft, cheating by impersonation, and forgery under the Information Technology Act, 2000. Beyond the legal consequences, they pose grave risks to an organisation's reputation and domain integrity. Strict backend-only integration, access control policies, and continuous security audits are vital safeguards, and swift reporting to cybercrime authorities is essential for tracing the digital footprint and prosecuting offenders," said Assad.

Bengaluru survey extended to October 24

The deadline for completing the Social and Educational Survey-2025 in Greater Bengaluru (GBA) has been extended to October 24, while the statewide deadline is now October 12.

Since October 4, survey work has been underway in the five municipal areas of GBA, with 17,000 personnel deployed, including 6,500 teachers and lecturers, and the remaining 10,500 from other departments.

10 days holiday

Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar said on Tuesday that the state government has declared a holiday of 10 days till October 18 for government and aided schools to enable teachers from these schools to participate in the Social and Educational survey.

Addressing a press conference on the progress of the Social and Educational Survey at Vidhana Soudha, he said, "The Karnataka State Primary School Teachers' Association had appealed to the government to declare holiday so that the teachers can participate in the survey as enumerators. In this backdrop, the state government has declared a holiday for 10 days."

"We held a meeting under the leadership of the Chief Minister to review the progress of the Social and Educational survey. As much as 90% of the people have cooperated for the survey in rural areas and the government would like to thank them. We started the survey in the Greater Bengaluru area a little later due to the training of the Election Commission work. Twenty five percent of the survey is completed in Bengaluru," he said.

Former PM Deve Gowda admitted to hospital in B'luru

Former Prime Minister HD Deve Gowda has been admitted to the Manipal Hospital in Bengaluru following a deterioration in his health condition.

Doctors have said that Deve Gowda is recovering and that his condition is currently stable, according to hospital authorities on Tuesday.

The former Prime Minister was shifted to the hospital on Monday night after developing symptoms of chills, fever, and a urinary infection.

The health statement by the Manipal Hospital said, "Prime Minister Deve Gowda was hospitalised with an infection. He is currently undergoing medical management for the same and his progress is being monitored by a team of medical experts."

The 92-year-old JD-S Rajya Sabha member remains active in politics despite his age and has recently asserted that he will ensure the BJP–JD-S alliance comes to power in Karnataka.

Family sources said that Deve

Gowda has been experiencing age-related ailments and had recently undertaken a tour of his native Hassan district. The former Prime Minister had also met with the families of the eight victims, who were killed during a Ganesh immersion procession after being mowed down by a truck.

Hospital authorities said that Deve Gowda is responding well to the treatment and is steadily improving.

Known as the "son of the soil", Deve Gowda is recognised for his deep understanding of agrarian issues and his focus on rural development.

His political career spans over seven decades, and he remains active in Karnataka's coalition politics. **IANS**

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real estate

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personal

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Muniswamy Reddy D.B. S/o Late Buchappa R/a No. 90/1, 9th Cross, Vidyapita Road, Near Ganga Bhavanu Temple Kote, Kengeri, Bengaluru-560060 have changed my daughter's name from POORVI M. to RASHMIKA M. vide affidavit dated 6-10-2025 Sworn before Notary Ravi, Bengaluru.

I Nishat Anjum Anwarhusain W/O, Aneesahmedh Yarzari R/o Flat S-4, Pyramid Bilberry, 2nd Floor, Off. Thanisandra Main Road, Near Agrahara Lake, Chokkanahalli, Bengaluru, Karnataka - 560064 have changed my name to Nishatanjum Yarzari.

I, Udayagiri Leelanadh Sundara Rajachari S/o Udayagiri Sundara Rajachari R/o Flat A201, A Block, Skandagiri BDA Apartments, Phase 2, Konadasapura, Kannamangala Post, Bengaluru 560067 have changed my name to Udayagiri Leelanadh for all future purposes

I, Syeda Garag R/o No 1-4-904 Beside Garden Idsmt Layout Raichur 584101 Have changed my name From Syeda Tasneem to Syeda Garag for All Purposes

I Varun S/O, Lashkari Naik R/o 1089, Prashasthi Nilaya, 1st Main 1st Cross Taralabalu Badavane, Davangere, Karnataka 577005 have changed my name to Varun L N.

I Dattatraya Bhat S/O, Shankaranarayan Bhat R/o #hitlakai Hasargod Siddapur Uttarakannada 581340 have changed my name to Dattatraya Shankaranarayan Bhat.

I, Rama Balachandran W/o R. Balachandran R/o Flat 1404, B3 Building, L & T South City, Bannerghatta Road, Bangalore 560076 declare that my correct name is Rama Balachandran and not Rama R Balachandran.

I, Salman Ahamed R/o flat no 5 2nd cross entrance 50 Roses apartment RBI colony Jayanagar 3rd block Bangalore 560011 Have changed my name to Salman Ahmed B for all Purposes

I, Ragipet Kavitha W/o Preetheesh Boganatham Naga R/o #102,1st Floor,pallavi Enclave Apts., Annaiah Reddy Lyt,J P Nagar 5 PS, B'luru 560078 have changed my name to Kavitha Boganatham.

I, Govinda Raju J R/o No 1331 4th Block Doddabommasandra Vidyaranyapura Bengaluru 560097 have changed my minor son's name from Thanveer to Tejas G for all purposes.

I Nagaratna Dattatraya Bhat W/O, Dattatreya Bhat R/o # Hitlakai Hasargod Siddapur Uttara Kannada 581340 have changed my name to Nagaratna Dattatreya Bhat.

I, Nayazuddin Ahmed S/o Ahamed Jan, R/of H No.13 2nd Floor 4th Cross Dr T C M Royan Road Chaluvadipalya Bengaluru 560053, Changed my Father's Name as AHMED JAN.

I Aneesahmedh Anwarhussain Yarzari S/O, Anwarhussain R/o Flat S-4, Pyramid Bilberry, 2nd Floor, Off. Thanisandra Main Road, Near Agrahara Lake, Chokkanahalli, Bengaluru, Karnataka - 560064 have changed my name to Aneesahmedh Yarzari.

I, Monali Ovhal D/O, Murlidhar Bhikoba Ovhal R/o D 203 Krishna Mystiq, Pragathi Nagar Main Road, Chikkagthour Basapura have changed my name to Monali Murlidhar Ovhal for all purposes.

GET NOTICED

No takers for hi-tech plates

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

scheme is already mandatory in most states, Karnataka too can enforce it once the stay order is vacated."

He further explained that HSRP plates are a one-time installation designed to simplify vehicle identification and improve safety.

"Their advanced security features make them difficult to tamper with or counterfeit. They also help enhance road safety by making vehicles easily traceable, while ensuring uniformity in vehicle identification across the country, thereby aiding better tracking and law enforcement."

Pan-India norm

The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways had made HSRP plates mandatory across India to enhance security and standardise vehicle identification. The plates, equipped with advanced features such as a chromium-based hologram, laser-etched permanent identification number, and a snap-lock system, are difficult to tamper with or duplicate. Officials have stressed that this move is essential to curb vehicle thefts, cloning of number plates, and fraudulent practices.

On average, nearly 700 vehicles are reported missing every month in Karnataka, with half of them from Bengaluru.

A senior police official noted that HSRP plates make vehicles far easier to trace. In cases of accidents, crimes, or thefts, these plates greatly improve tracking efficiency for enforcement agencies.

"Uniformity in vehicle registration plates not only helps us identify offenders quickly but also prevents violations such as number plate duplication," the official said. "However, low awareness among vehicle owners and the slow pace of adoption have become major hurdles."

Officials have also pointed out challenges such as limited availability of HSRP plates, as well as data mismatches and glitches on the VAHAN portal. The situation is further complicated by a pending court verdict, making it difficult to enforce HSRP as compulsory. Whether HSRP will be made compulsory or face an eighth extension will be known after the next court hearing, scheduled for next month.

 # Vijay Deverakonda is doing fine
Actor Vijay Deverakonda has assured fans that he is "all fine", a day after his car met with a minor accident in Telangana

SANDALWOOD SHOTS
Y MAHESWARA REDDY

Dance like a star

The team of Kiccha Sudeep-starrer Mark has unveiled the film's first track – Psycho Saithan – on Saregama Kannada's YouTube channel. Ajaneesh has scored music for the song written by Anup Bhandari. Vijay Prakash, B Ajaneesh Lokanath, and Aniruddha Sastry are the singers. The song captures Sudeep's unique style of dancing and attitude. Mark is expected to arrive in theaters on December 25.

The movie's team launched a hook step challenge on social media inviting fans to recreate their favourite star's signature moves from the track. The team has asked the participants to perform one of Sudeep's steps and post it on Instagram, tagging the movie's official page, and also use the #MarkHookstepChallenge. The team has provided an opportunity to the fans to share the best reels on Instagram and also present prizes for best reels.

Mark is directed by Vijay Karthikeya, who handled the megaphone for Kannada blockbuster Max. Sudeep played the lead in Max, making Mark the second movie for the duo. Mark will be released exactly a year after Max.

The movie is bankrolled under the Sathya Jyothi Films banner and Kiccha Creations banner. Sekhar Chandra is the cinematographer.

Trilingual movie

The muhurat function of Chikkanna-starrer Jodetthu was held on Bagalur Main Road on Sunday. The movie is being made in Kannada, Tamil, and Telugu. Producer-cum-director R Chandru switched on the camera while actor Sharan sounded the clapboard and also released the title teaser. The title teaser showcases Telugu actor Sunil and Kannada actor Chikkanna.

S Mahesh Kumar is the director while Somasekhar (Kattigenahalli) is bankrolling the movie under the Akash Enterprises banner. "The title teaser has turned out very good. The movie has experienced actors and technicians. I wish success to the cast and crew," Sharan said.

Chikkanna said Jodetthu will remain

one of the big-budget movies in his acting career. "The movie is expected to go on floors from next month," he said. Director Kumar said Chikkanna' s fans can see him in a different avatar on the screen. "The movie will showcase traditions and customs of the Mandya," the director said. It is producer Somasekhar (Kattigenahalli)'s third film. "I do not compromise with the quality of the movie," the producer said.

What keeps Khushi grounded

Enjoy the process without constantly worrying about outcome is her mantra

Khushi Kapoor may be only a few films old, but she's already carving a space for herself — not just on screen but also in fashion.

Fresh off her latest campaign, she opens up about what style means to her, calling it her biggest source of confidence.

"Personal style is my anchor. On days when I'm nervous or unsure, the right outfit can give me confidence and make me feel like myself again," she tells Mumbai Mirror.

The Azorte campaign taps into a feeling that's instantly relatable to young people — navigating the uncertain "in-between" phases of life. Ask her what does being in the middle of her journey means, and she replies, "I connect with it deeply. I feel like I'm not at the finish line, I'm just learning, growing, and figuring it out. It's comforting to know that being in the middle doesn't mean being stuck—it means you're moving." The actress further talks about being in the middle of her career, she adds, "I try to enjoy the process instead of constantly worrying about the outcome. Every project, every audition, every day on set feels like another step forward. Embracing the "in between" keeps me curious and stops me from burning out."

On a parting note, ask her what keeps her grounded, and The Archies actress says, "Reminding myself why I started keeps me sane. I chose this career because I love storytelling. Staying close to my roots, spending time with family, and keeping my circle small help me stay grounded."

—Vinay MR Mishra, ETimes

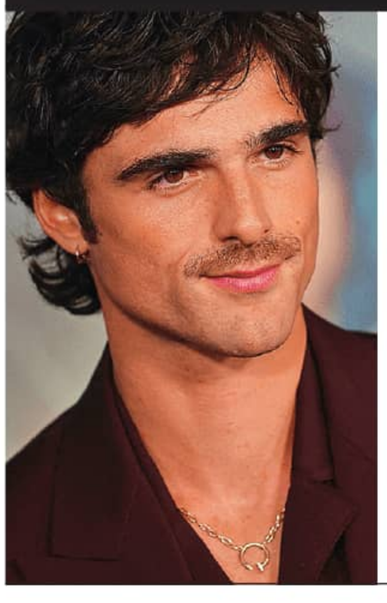
That's the real spirit

Triptii Dimri replaced Deepika Padukone as the female lead in Sandeep Reddy Vanga's Spirit opposite Prabhas. Amid the controversy, the Bulbul actress has showed support for the Pathaan star by liking a social media reel highlighting negative PR and false narratives against her. In a video on reddit, celebrity saree draper Dolly Jain recalled how Deepika performed the 'Nagada Sang Dhol' song from Goliyon Ki Raasleela Ram-Leela barefoot, despite bleeding and swollen feet from the 30 kg lehenga and intense choreography.

Fans were quick to react. A user said, 'That is so sweet of her! Love to see her support Deepika. People love to pit them against each other especially after Spirit fiasco but they are both professional and people need to get a life.

While one user wrote, 'I guess she understands if it is Deepika today, it could be her tomorrow', another one added, 'So amazing to see two queens supporting each other. All my love to Triptii and Deepika'.

— ETimes



10 hours in the creature's skin

Actor Jacob Elordi, who plays Frankenstein's Monster in "Frankenstein", spent "10 hours" in makeup "every day" to become the creature, said director Guillermo del Toro.

The 60-year-old filmmaker told E! News at the Los Angeles, California, premiere of the movie on October 6: "He took around 10 hours every day and about 42 pieces of makeup, prosthetics. And then he would have to work."

Del Toro was impressed by how Elordi embraced the make-up, reports female-first.co.uk.

The director added: "He did it all with grace and patience and love. I told him, 'Look, it's like when a priest is getting dressed, there are many layers to the robes and the ceremonial guard. You have to think, this is your Ceremonial Guard. You're invoking the Creature.'

"And the result is heartbreaking and beautiful. It's a really naked performance - emotionally so close to innocence that it breaks your heart."

Oscar Isaac stars as scientist Victor Frankenstein, and he was equally as impressed by how "effortless" Elordi was.

—IANS

The art of saying no

Actor Ayushmann Khurana reflected on his early career days, recalling the challenges he faced while working as a young journalist.

Before rising to fame as an actor and singer, the 'Vicky Donor' actor dabbled in journalism, juggling roles in radio, television, and theatre.

Speaking at FICCI Frames 2025 event, Ayushmann shared that one of the toughest lessons from that phase was learning to say "no" especially at the beginning of his career. The actor stated, "I think it is these baby steps towards success, being a journalist. Saying no is the most difficult part, especially on the onset of your career. When you're young, you just started and saying no to big people is not easy, but that's what makes you. You have to go with your conviction, with your gut, with your intuition."

He added, "But I think saying yes to one sort of film, Article 15, changed the perception as I was known for light-hearted social comedies before that..."

— IANS

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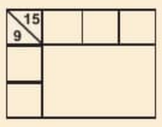
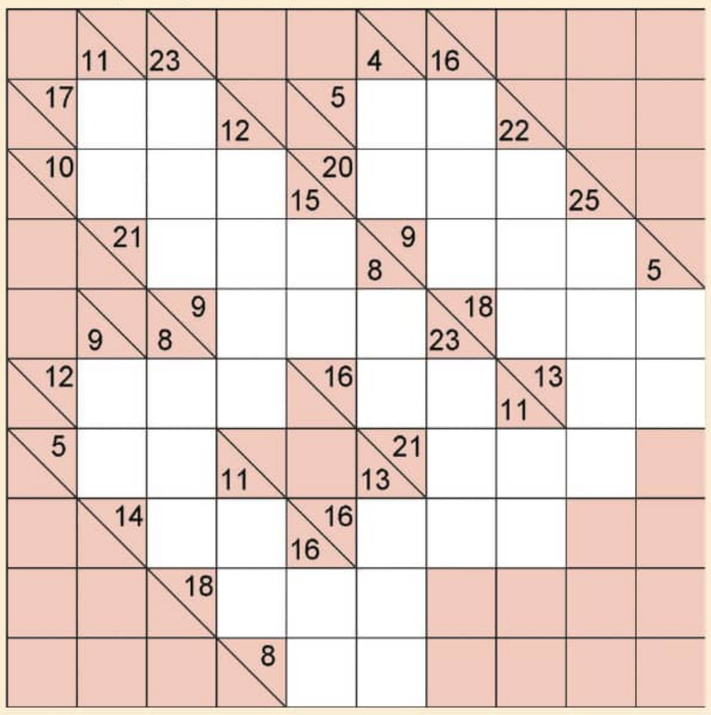
@BangaloreMirror

Kakuro

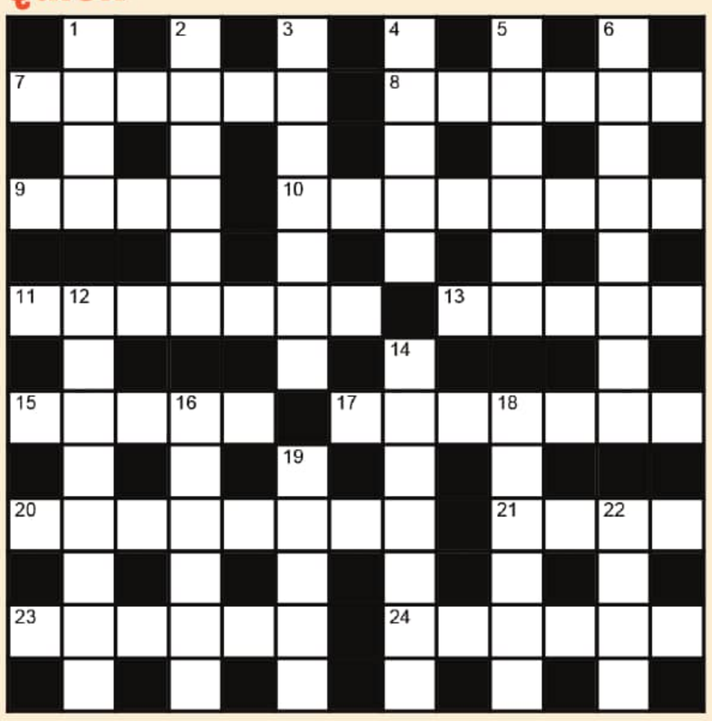
The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.



Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

7 Country (6)
8 ____ Lake: Picnic spot north east of the city. (6)
9 Hindu god of fire (4)
10 Coiffures (8)
11 Get or obtain; achieve (7)
13 Be suitable for; become (5)
15 City in Nebraska (5)
17 Accept as probable (7)
20 Humorous verse (8)
21 Job for a plumber (4)
23 Says or pronounces (6)
24 Number also written XC (6)

DOWN

1 Criminal group (4)
2 Surroundings (6)
3 Fixes firmly ship (7)
4 Sensational (5)
5 The human soul or spirit (6)
6 Has within it (8)
12 Inherited (4,4)
14 Playing hooky from the school? (7)
16 Paid attention to? (6)
18 Losing one's colour? (6)
19 Booth; stand (5)
22 Deeds (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: P EQUALS G

RF FRS VKFXAT LSQOK NKF CV RFL CR AFHS NCLK LSQOKCRP.

Linemaro

Your eyes are as blue as the sea after a storm

Mindchow

If a man empties his purse into his head, no man can take it away from him. An investment in knowledge always pays the best interest

Joke of the day

To keep your marriage brimming, With love in the loving cup, Whenever you're wrong, admit it, Whenever you're right, shut up

Loop

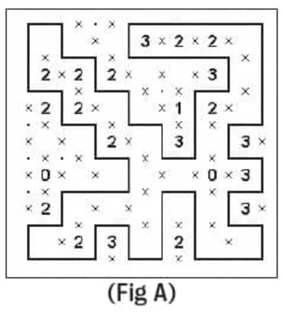
Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

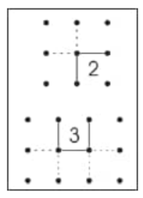
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

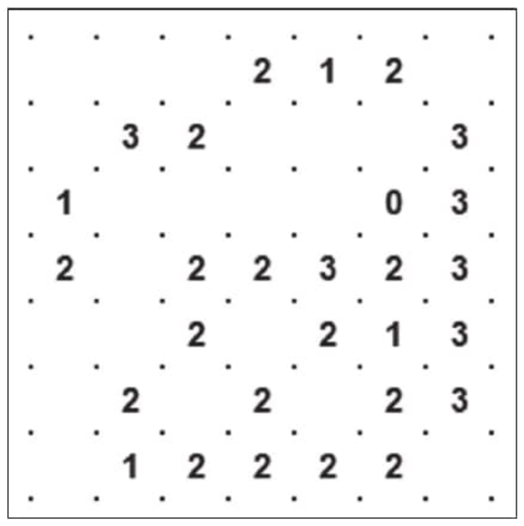
Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



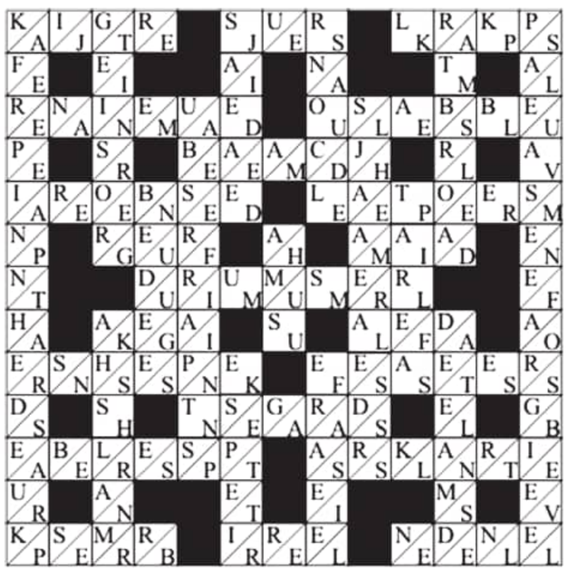
(Fig A)



(Fig B) Not Allowed



Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...

1	2	3	4	5
6				
7				
8	M			
9				

ACROSS

1 Laded; 6 Siren; 7 Reded; 8 Al Gem; 9 Raced

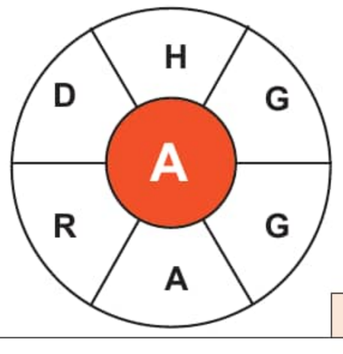
DOWN

1 Acids; 2 Armed; 3 Darer; 4 Leg ie; 5 Den Ed

Mensapuzzle

Which number replaces the question mark and completes the puzzle?

Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

04 Average; 05 Good; 06 Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

3				6			7	5
	2		7					
	5		4		1			9
	8	9	2					3
		3				7		
2					8	9	6	
7			6		4		8	
					2		9	
5	9			8				1

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

Easy = 3

6 8 8 9

Medium = 9

1 2 4 8

Hard = 5

2 5 5 6

Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

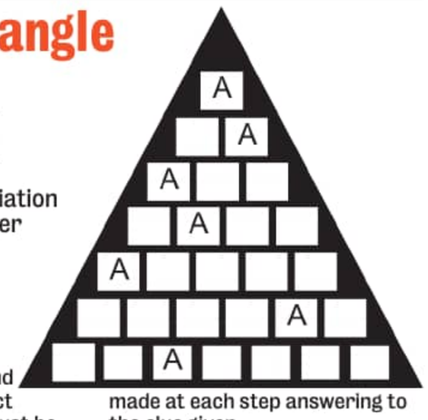
Differences: 1. Pen is moved to hand. 2. Paper on desk is missing. 3. Ear is different. 4. Hat is tilted back. 5. Lapel is missing. 6. Finger is moved.

Riddler

I am what remains of what was once a living whole, dug in deep, protruding, though, and unobtainable. What am I?

Alpha triangle

1 First letter
2 Note to follow so
3 Guinness e.g.
4 Superman's Lois
5 Foreign
6 Refusal or repudiation
7 Wheeling's partner



Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

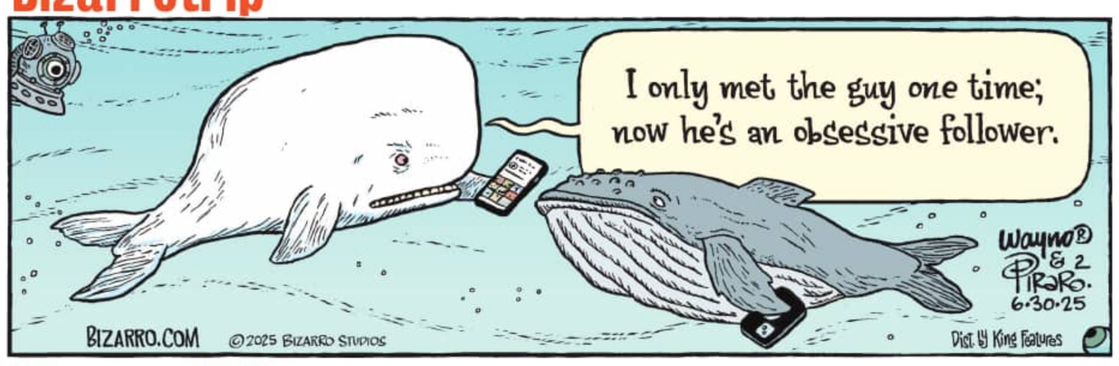
DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS

Popeye

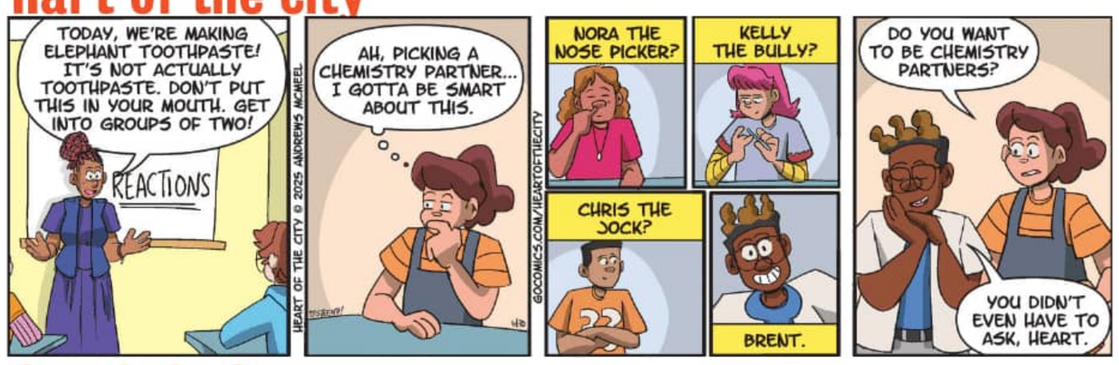
BELIEVE ME! THERE ARE VISITORS FROM SPACE!
OKAY, SHOW ME!
YOU GO FIRST! THEY COULD BE QUITE DANGEROUS!
BLOW ME DOWN!
WE'D LIKE TO KNOW ABOUT YOUR CULTURE!
IT'S STILL TALKING ABOUT MILK!
MOO?
popeye.com
1-8

Bizarrotrip


I only met the guy one time; now he's an obsessive follower.
Wayno & Piraro 6-30-25
BIZARRO.COM ©2025 BIZARRO STUDIOS
Dist. by King Features

Diamond Lil

Hart of the city


TODAY, WE'RE MAKING ELEPHANT TOOTHPASTE! IT'S NOT ACTUALLY TOOTHPASTE. DON'T PUT THIS IN YOUR MOUTH. GET INTO GROUPS OF TWO!
REACTIONS
AH, PICKING A CHEMISTRY PARTNER... I GOTTA BE SMART ABOUT THIS.
NORA THE NOSE PICKER?
KELLY THE BULLY?
CHRIS THE JOCK?
BRENT.
DO YOU WANT TO BE CHEMISTRY PARTNERS?
YOU DIDN'T EVEN HAVE TO ASK, HEART.
HEART OF THE CITY © 2025 ANDREWS MCMEEL
GOCOMICS.COM/HEARTOFTHECITY

Crankshaft

HAVE YOU EVER THOUGHT ABOUT HAVING YOUR OWN YOUTUBE CHANNEL TO PROMOTE YOUR BOOKS, MS. MCKENZIE?
ARE YOU KIDDING? HAVING MY OWN YOUTUBE CHANNEL HAS BEEN A DREAM OF MINE!
GREAT! WE'RE ON IT!
SARCASM! THAT WAS SARCASM!!
6-30
BATIUK & DAVIS tombatiuk.com/books
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Mutts

WRITTEN IN THE STARS

Dr SUNDEEP KOCHAR

If it's your birthday today

Determination and persistence define your year. Career ambitions accelerate as your focus inspires recognition. Hard work yields lasting results. Friendships become supportive allies in your journey. Finances stabilise through disciplined effort. Relationships deepen with loyalty and shared goals. Health requires consistent attention but rewards you with strength. By year's end, your accomplishments highlight a year marked by achievement and respect.

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
View chores as chances to pour love. Each mindful act reverberates as cosmic light. Release pressure about the future; your power lies in nurturing presence. Lead with gentle passion and purpose.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Heightened sensitivity requires patience. Take downtime before shaping expansive visions. Listen inwardly; your heart reveals alignment. Gentle reflection clears perspective and points the way toward fulfilling desires.

Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Conflicts resolve; prosperity aligns. You're positioned to lead, clear obstacles, and claim opportunity. The timing is perfect for bold leaps—embrace momentum with courage, soaring toward lasting fulfilment.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Career or purpose shifts onto unexplored ground, bringing clarity and courage. This harmony benefits relationships and sharpens intention. Embrace this phase fully; your next big chapter is unfolding beautifully.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Whether nurturing a child or a dream, gentleness sustains growth. Peace radiates outwards, creating ripples of stillness. Trust your body's signals and follow guidance; serenity fosters divine timing and aligned outcomes.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Observe familiar patterns repeating—break cycles now. Support from beyond arrives through feathers, butterflies, or coins. Gracefully release toxic ties, knowing you are supported and guided into freedom.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Leap boldly and let the Universe catch you. Faith invites miracles beyond dreams. Spend time outdoors, add beauty to your surroundings, and trust the divine orchestration of life's transformations.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Your wealth lies in memories and heart, not possessions. Shift focus to health and wellbeing. Honour what matters most—time and tribe. Recall inner power through gratitude and simplicity today.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
Let angels inspire solutions and illuminate paths forward. Sync with lunar rhythms for personal flow. Compassion and creativity unlock sustained success. Surrender control and follow cosmic timing.

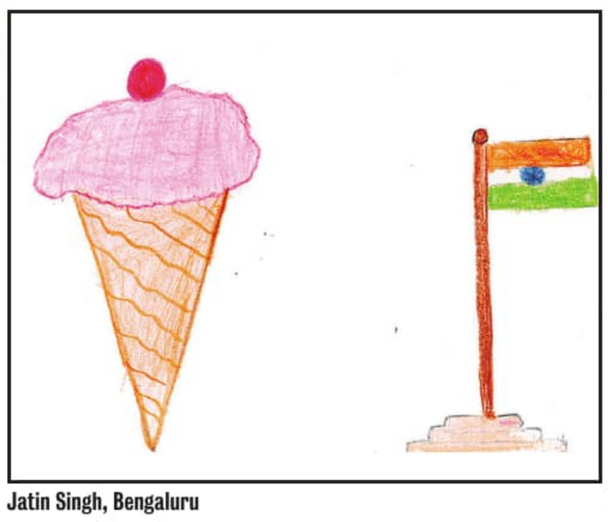
Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Clear energy to receive divine guidance. Organise ideas, speak mindfully, and note inspirations—they're heavenly messages. Inner child healing enhances clarity and love, reconnecting you with your authentic self.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Your initiatives receive a cosmic response. Pace carefully, develop ideas, and embrace wellness. Life is meant for joy; recognise your power to co-create abundance while keeping health equally vital.

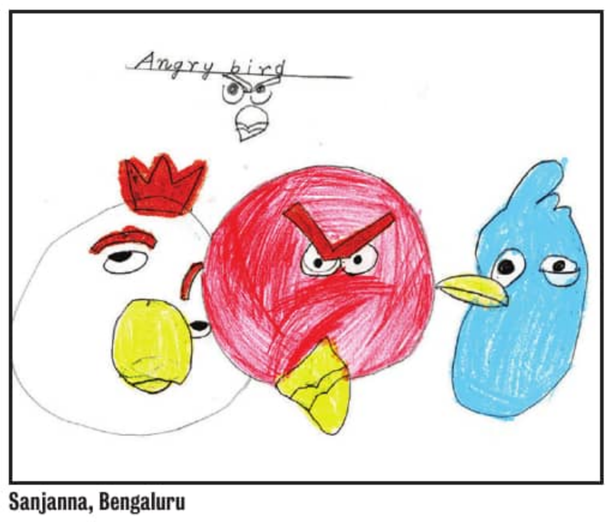
Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Declutter mentally and energetically; lighten your load. Challenges taught you resilience—keep the lessons but release the teachers. Trust the divine orchestration; every hardship guided growth. Make space for brighter opportunities.

www.sundeepkochar.com

KIDZONE



Jatin Singh, Bengaluru



Sanjanna, Bengaluru

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru-560 011;
Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
= (√(3/5 + 1/5) x 5/9)^-2
= (√(4/9))^-2
= (√(9/4))^2
= 9/4

STRIKE OUT

K	I	T	E		J	U	S		L	A	P	P
E		E			A		M		L			
E	N	N	E	A	D		U	S	A	B	L	E
	P		S		B	E	A	C	H		L	
I	R	O	N	E	D		E	A	T	E	R	S
N		R	U	R		A		M	I	D		E
T		D	R	U	M	M	E	R				F
H		A	G	A		U		L	E	A		O
D		H		T	S	A	R	S		E		G
E	S	S	E	N		F	E	S	T	E	R	

QUICK

										O
										U
										N
										L
										E
										O
										A
										A
										A
										N
										G

MENSA PUZZLE
4. From top to bottom, reading each pair of numbers as a 2 digit value, the numbers follow the sequence of square numbers, from 16 to 49, each written back to front.

QUOTE UNCODE
No one should teach who is not in love with teaching.

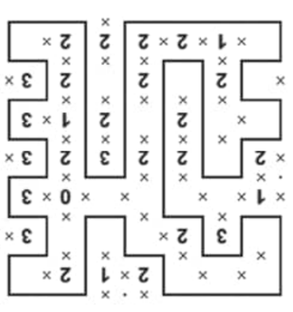
SUDOKU

3	1	4	8	6	9	2	7	5
9	2	8	7	5	3	4	1	6
6	5	7	4	2	1	8	3	9
4	8	9	2	7	6	1	5	3
1	6	3	9	4	5	7	2	8
2	7	5	1	3	8	9	6	4
7	3	1	6	9	4	5	8	2
8	4	6	5	1	2	3	9	7
5	9	2	3	8	7	6	4	1

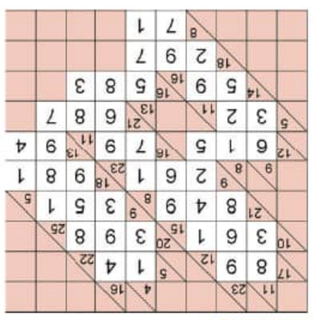
ALPHA TRIANGLE
A, La, Ale, Lane, Alien, Denial, Dealing.

GO FIGURE
Easy
8 - 8 + 9 - 6 = 3
Medium
8 / 2 + 1 + 4 = 9
Hard
5 + 2 - 6 x 5 = 5

LOOP



KAKURO



FAST FIVE

C	A	R	E	D
I	M	A	G	E
D	R	E	E	D
S	E	R	I	N
A	D	D	L	E

RIDDLER A stump

BULL'S EYE
agar, drag, gaga, grad, HAGGARD, hard

Volume No 18, Issue No 198 RNI NO:KARENG/2007/21142 Published for the Proprietors, Metropolitan Media Company Ltd by Lokesh K.V. at No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru-560 011 and printed by him at Bennett Coleman & Co Ltd., The Times of India Press, No. 9/10/11-A, 4th Main, KIADB Bommasandra Industrial Area, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore - 560 099 (Phones : Press : 080-22899999; Editorial : 080-40877666, Fax – 40877545, Registered Office: No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru - 560 011, Email : mybangaloremirror@timesofindia.com Editor : Ms. Seena Menon - responsible for selection of news under PRB Act. © Reproduction in whole or in part without the written permission of the Publisher is prohibited.

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